A WARNING

To the Inhabitants of

LEEDS,

And all others in

Cities, Towns and Villages;

Who have willfully been

Perfecuting

THE

PEOPLE of the *LORD*,

VVhom he hath called by his Eternal Spirit to magnifie himſelf in, and to teſtifie for Truth and Righteouſneſs, and againſt all ungodly Works, and Workers thereof.

By *Iſabel Wails.*

Printed in the Year 1685.

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WARNING

To the Inhabitants of

LEEDS

And all others that are or may be concerned, in all Cities, Towns and Villages, whereſoever this may come.

O You Inhabitants of *Leeds!* to whom I have been a near Neighbour, and a near Dweller these ſeveral years, This day I am moved in the everlaſting Spirit of Truth, to warn you, both High and Low, Rich and Poor, to Return unto the Lord God, who by his Holy Spirit calls in the ſecret parts of your hearts for Truth and Righteouſneſs, and true Holineſs, and wills not the Death of any Soul that he in his pure Wiſdom hath Created. But *dear People!* this is my Teſtimony for the Lord, he would have all to come unto him, that they may receive Life and Peace from him, who is God forever, and he changeth not, neither is he limited this day, nor his Spirit is not limited, which he in the riches of his Love hath manifeſted and revealed unto us; ſo in the ſure Revelation of his

eternal Love, am I constrained to tell you, who have made War against the appearance of the Lord in his People, The Lord is making haste to recompence every one of you according to your doings; for he is risen to be a swift Witness against the Ungodly: And I plainly tell you all, who these lines may come before, to be read, or heard, *If you sow to the Flesh, of the Flesh you shall reap Corruption, but if ye sow to the Spirit, ye shall of the Spirit reap Life Everlasting.* Therefore in the fear of the Lord God, and Bowels of tender Pity, am I made to warn you all, to lay aside or cease from your Acts of Cruelty, which the power of Satan hath invented in your Hearts, which Power is limited. So I intreat you to return unto the Lord, and put on the Spirit of Meekness, and seek the Lord God, that through seeking him you may find Mercy and Compassion, as all his People (who have sought him) have done, from Age to Age, and Generation to Generation, the Lord God hath had pity unto the Cries of his own; and its for no other cause or occasion, that we Suffer, but for bearing forth the Testimony of his Love that he hath revealed in us, who were in the Bondage of Corruption, and Iniquity, as you are, who are persecuting the Upright, and have oppressed the Innocent without any just cause: Therefore I am bound to declare unto you, That God is highly displeased at your doings; for his Anger is kindled, and the Viols of his Wrath are ready to be poured forth upon you, who have wilfully transgressed against him: And except ye Repent, and let true Judgment come over the head of the Transgressor, you cannot escape, but you must drink of the Cup of his Indignation, which

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is held forth for them that will not take his counsel, nor hearken unto him when he calls.

Oh! how doth my Soul breathe that you would return unto the Lord, before that you have sinned out your Day, lest that the Lord's Bowels of Compassion be shut up against you; and if so, *Mark*] you may call and he will not hear, you may shout and cry, but he will not hearken, nor answer; therefore as God hath manifested himself unto us through his Son Christ Jesus, though we were in Darkness as well as others, but through waiting upon him in his own Spirit, we are come to know the Deeds of Wickedness to be mortified in us, and through his Spirit that gives Life, are we come to have our hearts softned and mollified thereby. So in this living Spirit we cannot but declare unto others, and desire that all may come to the true acknowledgment of the Lord, and not only to know him, but also to obey him; then it will be certain (as here you abide) that Cruelty will be put to an end in every one of your hearts, who come to receive this Counsel, and Mercy and Pity, and true Compassion will be raised towards all men; for of a Truth I declare, and bear my Testimony for my God at this very moment of time, that there is yet a tender pity runs from the Bowels of the Lord unto some of you, and his Mind is, that none might perish nor be destroyed, but that you might wait upon him, that through him you might receive Life and Peace forever.

So I intreat you that you may not reject the counsel of the Lord, which doth arise in the meanest of his People, and slight not the day of your Visitation, lest

it pass over your heads; for this day God is the same that ever he was, to bear up their heads that fear him, and also to renew their Faith, who are freely given up to answer him in his Requirings; also he is ready to take Vengeance of the Transgressors, and of them that stand to fight against any of his Children, whom he hath chosen to bear forth his Testimony in his Truth upon Earth.

So, dear People, (I would have you to) remember *Moses*, how often he was made by the Spirit and Power of God to spake unto *Pharoah*, but *Pharoah* opposed the Power of God through the hardness of his Heart, and rejected the Counsel of the Lord, that the Lord had revealed unto *Moses*, and he would not let the Children of *Israel* go, but he invented a way (through the work of Satan) how he might destroy the Innocent; but the Lord hearkened unto their Cries, and their Groans came before him, and he had regard unto his chosen flock, and by Faith were they delivered, when *Pharoah* and all his *Host* were destroyed, and did perish from off the Earth.

So in the tender Bowels of Love, hath the Lord God opened my Mouth amongst you (my Towns-men, Neighbours and Acquaintance) to warn you once more to return unto the Lord, who is the living God, and no longer harden your hearts; for this day God hath passed by the Wise and Prudent of this World, who have not had an Eye unto him, and he hath revealed himself unto a People who are accounted as the Off-scouring of the Earth, and in the eyes of (Wise) men we are not counted worthy to live; but God that hath heard our Cries, in the deepest of our Afflictions hath

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had regard unto us, and ſtill doth remain with us, and we are certain he will do, as we ſtand faithful unto him; for he hath renewed our Faith, as he did *Abraham*'s of Old. So in this Faith and Confidence is my Soul made to teſtifie againſt all Gain-ſayers, and them that ſtrike againſt the appearance of the Lord of Hoſts, in any of his People whom he hath choſen; and he hath alſo drawn us to believe in him, bleſſed be his Name forever; for he hath preſerved us through many Troubles, Tribulations, and great Sufferings, both within and without, when men have heaped Sorrow upon Sorrow, through the wrath of their Hearts, if by any means they could have deſtroyed us; but yet the Lord by his outſtretched Arm hath preſerved us, that in the midſt of my outward Troubles and Tribulations I can Bleſs, Praiſe and Magnifie the Name of the Lord, that he hath delivered my Soul out of the Bondage of Iniquity, and out of the Snares of Death, and counted me (with my Brethren and Siſters) worthy to ſuffer for the Teſtimony of his Name, its more precious to my Soul then the increaſe of *Corn*, *Wine* or *Oyl*, or any viſible thing that is upon the Earth.

So in the openings of Gods Spirit of Love, was I conſtrained to warn you to conſider what you have done, and how ye will anſwer the Lord, when he comes to take an account of you, for the deeds that you have done in the Body, that he did Frame and Make for himſelf, for a Temple to dwell in, and by your wicked Inventions you have defiled it, and in it have lodged the Power of Satan. So in the Spirit of Meekneſs do I intreat you, that you may come to

wait to feel the Power of God (which is an unlimited Power) to over-power all the Powers of Satan, which is limited and ever was, and he can go no further then the Lord ſuffers him, ſo that all our Tryals and Tribulations that we have gone through, or may go through, are but light unto us, in compariſon of Gods Love that he hath revealed unto us, and made us ſharers of, yea, many Thouſands of Sons and Daughters. So in this free Grace that God hath made my Soul a Witneſs of, I deſire to ſtand a Witneſs for him forever, over Sin, Death, and all the Powers of Satan, and my Travail is that you may come to experience the work of the Lord in you.

Dear People! its my Cry, that your underſtandings may be opened, that ye may hearken unto the Voice of the Lord, which Cries in the ſecret parts of the heart for Holineſs. Then will Sin be put to an end in you, and you will take no delight in it, nor you will have no Pleaſure to have Iniquity to lodge within your hearts; For I can truly declare unto you, that the Lord hath no pleaſure in them that are working Wickedneſs, and drinking up Iniquity as the Ox drinketh up Water. Oh, my Soul! my Soul cries unto the Lord that ye might return unto him, before the Day of Calamity and Sorrow come upon you; For if you will not hearken nor regard, its certain it will overtake you, and then will you ſay (if ye repent not) that you had warning given, time after Time, and would not take it: Therefore whether you will hear, or forbear, I have anſwered the Lords Requirings, and in my obedience I have Peace, which I preſer above all outward Injoyments. And I am bold to declare unto

you

you this day (the Lord knows I lye not) that I could neither eat, nor take my natural rest, but was oppressed, and my Tears were not a few; for my Soul mourned within me, until I was given up in obedience to the Lord God, to signifie unto you, what he had revealed unto my Soul: Therefore whether you will hear or forbear, (as I have said unto you) the Lord hath eased my Spirit in some measure, and in his Will I lie down, whatsoever he is pleased to suffer man to inflict upon me, I desire to be found in his service for evermore.

From one who is a well-wisher of all men, and desires the prosperity of all Souls, who am a Prisoner at York-Castle, *for the Testimony of Jesus, this* 17. *day of the* 10. *Moneth, in the Year,* 1684.

Isabel Wails.

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POSTSCRIPT.

O Ye People of *Leeds!* who have perſecuted the Lords Servants, and impriſoned the Innocent without a cauſe; For your ſakes am I made to mourn in ſecret, and my Spirit is troubled within me, when I conſider the **Calamity** that is coming upon you, and which will certainly overtake you, except you ſpeedily Repent: **A Day of Diſtreſs** and great **Lamentation!** **A Day of Darkneſs** and **Gloominess!** **A Day of Miſery** and of the **Shadow of Death,** is coming upon you, in which although you call, the Lord will not hear, yea, though ye cry aloud he will not regard it, becauſe when he called unto you ye would not hear, and when he waited to be gracious, warning you again and again to Repent, yet ye regarded it not, but ſet at nought his Counſel, and made a ſcorn of them by whom he warned you, and deſpiſed all his Reproofs.

Oh! conſider of this, ye Inhabitants of *Leeds*, whilſt yet you have a day or time, you who have had a hand in perſecuting the Innocent, (who have done no harm to any of you) and that have had no regard either to Old or Young, Rich nor Poor, **Fatherleſs** nor **Widdows**, but have ſent (or haled) of all ſorts to Priſon, without reſpect to Age or Sex, (even ſome great with Child) Oh! have ye not deſpiſed and afflicted the Aged and Gray-Hairs, whom the Lord hath honoured, and the Poor which he regarded? And as for the Sick, have ye not turned your backs on them, whoſe Groans have been heard in your Ears? O! do you not think that the Lord ſees and takes notice of theſe things, and that all your

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Hard-heartedneſs, Cruelty and Oppreſſion, are written down in his Book? Yes certainly, the Lord of Hoſts both ſees and takes notice of them, and in due time will aſſuredly viſit for the ſame, and be avenged on his Adverſaries, recompencing a Reward upon them according to their deeds; for it is he that hath called us, and given us to bear Witneſs of him, and his Name and Truth upon the Earth, and are made willing to wait on him, and to be ſubject to him, in obedience to his requirings; yea, though it be to the hazard of Liberty, Life and Eſtate; for he hath not ſpared to ſhed his precious Blood for us, that he might Redeem us from all Iniquity, that we might be a peculiar People to him: Therefore he is precious to us, yea, as a *Pearl* of great Price; and this day we cannot but remember him, honour him, and fear his Name, and we durſt not deny him nor his Truth before men, who hath plucked us as Brands out of the Fire, and hath raiſed us up who were dead in Treſpaſſes and in Sins (as well as others) and hath cauſed us this day to Teſtifie of him, who is God forever and changeth not, who will have pity on them that fear him, and truſt in his Name, when all the Wicked and Ungodly ſhall periſh from his preſence, and from off the Face of the Earth.

The Day haſtens, yea, the day haſtens, that Gods fierce Wrath and Indignation will be poured out upon the Stiff-necked and Rebellious Generation, and upon all ſuch as will not hearken unto (but reject) his Counſel, which by his Spirit he hath and is giving unto the Sons and Daughters of Men: Therefore Repent, Repent, leſt Salvation be hid from your Eyes.

From a Sufferer for the Truth and Righteouſneſs ſake, known to many of you by the Name of

Iſabel Mails.

THE END.